



ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

August 31, 2004

Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad Company,
Petitioner,

Vs.

Village of Bellwood, County of Cook, Illinois, and State of Illinois, Department of
Transportation,
Respondents.

T04-0066

Petition for authorization to partially reconstruct Bridge No. 156 carrying Indiana
Harbor Belt Railroad tracks over St. Charles Road in the City of Bellwood, County
of Cook, State of Illinois, and for waiver of the clearance requirements of 92 Ill.
Adm. Code, Section 1500.160.

Mr. Roger A. Serpe
Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad Company
150 N. Wacker Dr., Ste. 1500
Chicago, IL 60606-1606

Dear Mr. Serpe:

Receipt is acknowledged of the original and four (4) copies of the Petition filed August 31, 2004 in the above matter.

All future correspondence/pleadings should be filed with an original and two (2) copies and addressed to: Mr. Dave Lazarides, Acting Director of Processing, Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701 or you may file electronically through E-Docket if you have an account. To apply for an account, please log on to www.icc.state.il.us and apply for an E-docket account.

Processing and Information Section

kl

cc: Mr. Victor A. Modeer, IDOT
Mr. Tony Ingram, IHB
Village of Bellwood, Mayor/Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

COPY

Petition for authorization to partially)
reconstruct Bridge No. 156 carrying Indiana)
Harbor Belt Railroad tracks over St. Charles)
Road in the City of Bellwood, County of Cook,)
State of Illinois, and for waiver of the)
clearance requirements of 92 Ill. Adm. Code,)
Section 1500.160)

No. 704-0066

PETITION

INDIANA HARBOR BELT RAILROAD COMPANY ("IHB"), by its attorney Roger A. Serpe, hereby petitions the Illinois Commerce Commission ("ICC" or "Commission") on an expedited basis for authority to partially reconstruct the bridge carrying IHB tracks over St. Charles Road in the City of Bellwood, County of Cook, State of Illinois, and for a waiver of the clearance requirements set forth in 92 Ill. Adm. Code, Section 1500.160. In support of this petition, the IHB states as follows:

1. The Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this petition and of the petitioner pursuant to Chapter 18 of the Illinois Commercial Transportation Law. 625 ILCS 5/18c-7401.
2. St. Charles Road is a suburban collector in the Village of Bellwood which runs in an east -- west direction and, at this location, is a primary mover of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
3. IHB Bridge No. 156 is an overhead structure spanning St. Charles Road supporting three (3) mainline tracks of the IHB railroad.
4. The IHB desires to partially reconstruct the bridge as more fully set forth herein and hereby seeks authorization from the Commission for this reconstruction project. A detailed

DOCKETED

AUG 31 2004

drawing of the proposed partial reconstruction plan has been prepared by Neimeyer & Associates, P.C., consulting engineers, and is attached as Exhibit "A."

5. The IHB plans to provide all necessary funding for this project and is not seeking any contribution for this project from any other source.

6. The IHB intends to replace two of the four main girders and the entire floor system for two of the three tracks on the bridge.

7. The steel superstructure to be replaced was constructed in 1897 and is inadequate to carry present day traffic resulting in severe restrictions to train operations across the bridge. Replacement is necessary to ensure continued safe operation of trains.

8. The remaining portion of the existing structure, carrying the third track, was constructed in 1924 and is adequate for present day traffic and does not restrict train operations in any way or create any safety concerns.

9. Existing concrete abutments will be repaired by grouting of cracks and then resurfaced with a four (4) inch facing of shot Crete.

10. Vertical clearance for vehicular traffic will remain unchanged at 16.2 feet.

11. Existing and proposed horizontal clearances from the centerline of track to the girder flanges are as follows:

	Horizontal Clearance – Centerline of Track to Girder Flange	
	Existing	Proposal
Track 21 (West Track)	8' ½ "	Unchanged 8' ½ "
Track 2 (Center Track)	7' 15/16"	7' 1½ "
Track 1 (East Track)	7' 1"	7' 6"

12. The IHB hereby requests that the Commission waive its clearance requirements of 92 ILL. Adm. Code Section 1500.160.

13. The reason that compliance with 92 ILL. Adm. Code Section 1500.160 cannot be met and a waiver is requested is because the location of crossover tracks on either side of the bridge together with physical limits of the existing abutments restricts the amount of track shifts and precludes attaining a minimum horizontal clearance of eight (8) feet.

14. The Village of Bellwood, the local highway authority with jurisdiction over St. Charles Road, is aware of the project and has no objection to this partial reconstruction plan. See Village of Bellwood letter, attached as Exhibit "B."

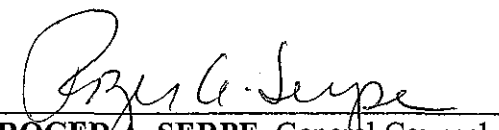
15. Assuming IHB receives the Commission's approval and waiver, the IHB expects to complete the Project on or before December 1, 2004.

WHEREFORE, the IHB prays that the Illinois Commerce Commission enter an Order, without hearing and on an expedited basis, authorizing the partial reconstruction of the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad Company Bridge No. 156 over St. Charles Road and waives the clearance requirements of 92 Ill. Adm. Code Section 1500.160.

August 30, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

**INDIANA HARBOR BELT
RAILROAD COMPANY**

By: 
ROGER A. SERPE, General Counsel

Roger A. Serpe, Esq.
Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad Company
Law Department
150 North Wacker Drive
Suite 1500
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1606
(312) 827-2680

PLEASE SEE

FORMAL FILE

FOR EXHIBITS